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Brief Presented to the Premier and Cabinet
of the Province Of Alberta, Sep 17 1973
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BRIEF PRESENTED TO
THE PREMIER AND CABINET
OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA
SEPTEMBER 17, 1973

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Lethbridge /Southern Alberta 1975 Jeux Canada Games Society

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Alberta has been chosen as host province for the 1975 Canada Winter Games. The Games will involve 2,750 young athletes from ten provinces and two territories, gathering in Alberta to participate in sixteen sports from February 11th to 22nd, 1975. During that time, the nation's attention, through television, radio, newspapers and attendance at the Games will be focussed on Alberta, and in particular on Lethbridge and Alberta's Sunny South. The Prime Minister of Canada, the Governor General, our own Premier and Lieutenant Governor, political leaders and dignitaries from each of the other provinces and two territories, 250 news media, observers from the Olympic and Commonwealth Games and a host of others from across our land will gather in Lethbridge/Southern Alberta to witness Canada's National Winter Sports Festival. The Lethbridge/Southern Alberta 1975 Canada Games Society is charged with the responsibility of organizing the Games and we are determined to do the job well and with a special western flair that only Albertans can achieve.

In order to do this we need the full support and enthusiasm of you Mr. Premier and your Cabinet. Our first aim today is to convey to you the idea that these are the Canada Games and that this is Alberta's once in a generation opportunity to play host to the rest of the nation. The Canada Winter Games



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will come to Alberta only once every forty-eight years. This is our time and we want the Province's help in making these the best Winter Games ever and in telling the story of the Games across Canada. The enthusiasm of Horst A. Schmidt has already made an impact on the Lethbridge/Southern Alberta Winter Games Society and visitors to the Canada Summer Games at New Westminster/Burnaby where the Minister was the focal point of this Province's participation. We hope his enthusiasm will infect the Cabinet and all Albertans in this exciting national venture.

There are specific areas where the Canada Games Society hopes for assistance from the Province of Alberta.

a) CAPITAL FUNDING

The funds for capital works to be built or upgraded for the Canada Games comes to the Society by equal contributions from the three levels of government. The Government of Canada by letter dated August 7, 1973 has committed itself to a contribution of \$493,500.00, providing an equal sum is contributed by the Provincial and Municipal Governments. The City of Lethbridge has committed itself to an expenditure of \$2,500,000.00 , far exceeding its quota. In negotiations with the Honorable Horst A. Schmidt we have presented material supporting our request for a contribution of \$530,000.00 from the Province of Alberta. A favorable announcement from the Cabinet during the occasion of your visit here will demonstrate the Province's support for the Canada Games and enable the Games Society to

meet its commitments to the City of Lethbridge which has already spent large sums on the 5,000 seat Sportsplex and speed skating oval which will be the principal showpiece of the Games and the permanent legacy to the people of this area from the 1975 Games.

b) WEST CASTLE

All skiing events are scheduled to be held at West Castle Ski Resort. West Castle is a privately owned ski resort, situate 28 miles South West of Pincher Creek, Alberta. The resort is in the heart of the Canadian Rocky Mountains with the ski runs located just below the continental divide. The land is owned by the Department of Lands and Forests and leased by the Government to the Company. Five skiing events will be held there - Downhill, Giant Slalom, Slalom, Cross Country and Jumping - involving 276 athletes. While its remote location deep in the Rocky Mountain Range makes the resort an ideal place for the skiing events, the remoteness creates problems. The area is not served with any utilities. There is no power, no natural gas, no telephone and the road to the resort is 28 miles of gravel with several problem areas that create major traffic problems. We urge the Government to give consideration to the provision of:

- a) a paved road to the perimeter of the Company's lease;
- b) the provision of electric power to the Company's lease;

- c) the immediate provision of a permanent telephone service to the Company's premises.

Major internal upgrading of the facility should be undertaken by the Company itself and we understand the Company's position to be that if its financial viability can be established by the provision of basic utilities then the Company will endeavour to obtain the funds required to upgrade its internal facilities (ski lifts, day and overnight lodging, etc.).

If the Company needs to borrow funds for these purposes then the Society lends its support to any application the Company might make to the Alberta Opportunity Fund. The Society urges the Government to give immediate consideration to the West Castle situation. It is critical to the success of the skiing events and immediate commitments are needed because only next summer remains in which to accomplish the work.

The Society also requests that the work be undertaken in such a way as to leave a legacy of permanent improvement to this important Provincial Rocky Mountain Resort Area rather than to provide only temporary assistance merely for the purpose of the Canada Games. For example in the matter of telephone service we ask that rather than putting in a temporary microwave system just for the period of the Games that permanent telephone service be installed now. We are already running into difficulties in organizing the West Castle end of the Games because there is only mobile radio telephone service and it works only 50% of the time because of the mountain location. If West Castle can be upgraded in a permanent way, the people of Southern Alberta will be left

with a second legacy - a jewel of a winter/summer Rocky Mountain resort on land owned by and subject to the control of Albertans and outside of a National Park.

We also request the Government, through the Department of Lands and Forests to issue permits allowing the establishment of trails in the forest reserve in the vicinity of West Castle for the cross-country racing events and further to give consideration to the utilization of the inmates of the Lethbridge Correctional Institute assigned to the Forestry Program, who are presently situated in the West Castle area, in the clearing and preparation of the cross-country trails.

c) SCHOOL CLOSING

The Canada Winter Games will be held from February 11th to 22nd, 1975. We ask that all schools in South West Alberta be closed during that period for the following reasons:

- a) to give our school children an opportunity to see the Games and meet the young people coming here from ten provinces and two territories;
- b) to free school buses in order to meet the immense transportation needs stemming from operating the Games at thirteen different centres throughout Southern Alberta;
- c) to provide some of the 2,500 volunteers required to operate the Games.

d) COMMUNICATIONS

The 1975 Canada Games will be run on a regional basis. Instead of having the Games in one City as before, the Games will be run in Lethbridge and in thirteen towns in Southern Alberta

(see appendix attached). This will place a very substantial load on the telephone system and we ask that A.G.T. be authorized to evaluate and, if necessary, upgrade its telephone system to handle the overload to assist in regional communications. We will need equipment and technical advice to organize a system of prompt and automatic communication of result from venues to the media centre in Lethbridge, communications centre at Games offices, athletes village, press centre and so on. The establishment of the Games communication system then involves technical advice, equipment and a very substantial expense which we hope will be this Province's most important contribution to the Games. Our advice is that the 1971 Canada Winter Games in Saskatoon and this year's Summer Games in British Columbia relied almost entirely on their Provincial Government Telephone Companies for this assistance.

e) PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PROMOTION

Alberta will be going all out to put on a truly national winter sports festival. We request the assistance of the Bureau of Public Affairs in helping us promote the Games and then tell the story of the Games to all of Canada. In particular we request that an experienced professional Public Relations person be assigned to the Games on a loaned executive basis to help us develop and carry out the selling of Alberta's - Canada Games to Albertans and the rest of Canada.

We suggest that consideration be given to the preparation of a historical film of the preparation for and

staging of the Games by the Bureau of Public Affairs to provide a record of the 1975 Canada Winter Games in Alberta.

f) PROTOCOL

The protocol and organization in handling hundreds of special guests including the Governor General and Prime Minister of Canada, the Lieutenant Governor and Premier of this Province, various Ministers and representatives of all the other provinces and territories, is an area where we need help. We request your assistance in locating and making available to the Society a protocol expert with sufficient training and experience to help us handle the protocol problems of a national event of this size.

g) CANADA GAMES LOTTERY

The 1971 Winter Games Society at Saskatoon realized a net profit of \$300,000.00 on its lottery. New Westminster/Burnaby realized about \$250,000.00 on its lottery. We seek your authority to run a Canada Games Lottery in Alberta and your assistance in controlling other lotteries ticket sales in Alberta so as to ensure a reasonable chance for the Canada Games Lottery to be successful.

h) THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SUPERIOR ALBERTA TEAM

While the Society's responsibility is to organize the Games for teams from ten provinces and two territories, nonetheless, we are Albertans and we want Alberta as host Province to field a team which will be the best we can produce. The organization

of an Alberta team is not the responsibility of the Society but we urge the Government to issue the necessary instructions and authorities so that an all out effort will be made to produce a superior Alberta team.

i) HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE AND SNOW REMOVAL

We suggest that the Department of Highways be asked to undertake the co-ordination of equipment and crews of Provincial, County and Municipal highway maintenance departments to ensure that the highways to the thirteen Games towns and the parking lots at the venues themselves will be promptly cleared and sanded in the event of snowfall or ice conditions.

Finally Mr. Premier, thank you for your courtesy in bringing your Cabinet to Lethbridge/Southern Alberta and in allowing us an opportunity to tell The 1975 Canada Winter Games Story. We know of your keen interest in sports and we hope for the little extra push that only you can give which will mean so much to the success of the Games.

All of which is respectfully submitted

LETHBRIDGE/SOUTHERN ALBERTA 1975
JEUX CANADA GAMES SOCIETY

Per: _____

President

Chairman

LETHBRIDGE/SOUTHERN ALBERTA 1975 CANADA WINTER GAMES

11	EVENT	LOCATION	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
O P E N I N G C E R E M O N I E S T U E S D A Y F E B R U A R Y 11 1975	SKIING	WESTCASTLE											C L O S I N G C E R E M O N I E S S A T U R D A Y F E B R U A R Y 22 1975	
	CURLING	COALDALE							W					
	JUDO	FORT MACLEOD								E				
		LETHBRIDGE				X								
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		SPORTSPLEX												
		U. OF L.								R		X		
	BOXING	CLARESHOLM												
	SPEED SKATING	PAVILION								N				X
		OVAl				X								
	SYNCHRON. SWIMMING										X			
	WRESTLING	CARDSTON												
	FENCING	PAVILION				X				H				
		P. BUTTE								O				
	BADMINTON	WINSTON CHURCHILL			X									
		MILK RIVER								S				
	FIGURE SKATING	RAYMOND								P				
		U. OF L.					X							
		SPORTSPLEX			X									
	TABLE TENNIS	BOW ISLAND								I				
	WEIGHT LIFTING	WINSTON CHURCHILL										X		
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11 1975	RAYMOND													
	L. C. I.								Y					
	SPORTSPLEX						X							

1380	No. athletes per day	1524	1524	1524	1416	1488	1080	1788	1224	1224	1224	1224
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